

Announcement of Region 5 Motorboat Operators Certification Courses

Course Synopsis: The Motorboat Operators Certification Course (MOCC) provides students with small watercraft operation and handling skills. While the course includes some hours of classroom instruction, the majority of the course involves “hands-on” activities, including boat maintenance, safety equipment, navigation, watercraft handling/maneuvering, docking, water rescue, fire suppression, and trailering exercises. There is also a two-hour pool session during which students will be provided instruction on emergency procedures. The MOCC is a three and ½ day course.

Who Should Attend: The course is required of all personnel involved in the operation of motorized watercraft. Passengers of watercraft need not attend, but may do so.

Prerequisites: Attendees should be familiar with small watercraft operation. **Prospective participants should practice their watercraft operation and trailering, with a certified operator, prior to attending the MOCC.** Any relevant health problems or other concerns that may impair the student's ability to participate in the entire course should be relayed to the Lead Instructor.

Tuition: There are no tuition costs for this course, however participants will be responsible for their own travel and per-diem costs.

Clothing and Equipment: Comfortable clothing appropriate for outdoor activities must be worn. Be prepared for any type of weather, including rain. There are some in-water activities, so please bring a swimsuit. A hat, sunglasses, lip balm, sun screen and shoes suitable for watercraft operations are essential. **Please bring a U.S. Coast Guard and Department of Interior approved personal flotation device as their use will be required for all water- related activities.**

Hotel Accommodations and Meals: Those attending the course are responsible for making their own travel arrangements in accordance with Federal Travel Regulations, such as the use of GovTrip or the government travel management center. For your reference, nearby hotels have been listed for several of the courses. Each student will be responsible for their meals.

Cancellation: Please notify the course contact person as soon as possible in the event you cannot attend. This will provide people on the waiting list an opportunity to attend.

Dates/Times/Locations: The following Motorboat Operator Certification Courses have been planned for 2008. Sign up early as the number of participants for each course is limited.

EDWIN B FORSYTHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Oceanville, New Jersey
May 6 – 9, 2008

To sign up for this course contact Al Hundley by email (Allen_Hundley@fws.gov) or telephone number 540-898-1755, before April 18, 2008

The per diem rate for Atlantic County, New Jersey is \$117/\$54. There are numerous hotels nearby in Absecon and Atlantic City. Several nearby hotels are listed below.

Quality Inn	609-652-3300	The Atrium Inn	609-652-1855
Hampton Inn	609-484-1900	Comfort Inn	609-651-6630
Clarion Hotel	609-272-0200	Hampton Inn	609-652-5302

You will be responsible for your travel arrangements and costs.

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK, Bar Harbor, Maine
MAY 20 – 23, 2008

This course is being offered by the National Park Service. Fish and Wildlife Service employees wishing to attend this course should contact Andrew Major by email (Andrew_Major@fws.gov) or telephone number 603-223-2541, before April 25, 2008.

The per diem rate for Hancock County, Maine is \$83/\$49. There are several hotels located in Bar Harbor and Ellsworth, Maine.

You will be responsible for your travel arrangements and costs.

STEWART B MCKINNEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Westbrook, CT.
MAY 20 -23, 2008

To sign up for this course contact Robert Garabedian by email (Robert_Garabedian@fws.gov) or telephone number 518-431-4341, before April 25, 2008.

The per diem rate for Middlesex County, Connecticut is \$83/\$44. There are several hotels in the area. Several nearby hotels are listed below.

Super 8	860-399-6273
Days Inn	860-388-3453
Comfort Inn	860-395-1414
Waters Edge Resort	860-399-5901

You will be responsible for your travel arrangements and costs.

MAYLAND FISHERY RESOURCES OFFICE, Annapolis, Maryland
June 3 – 6, 2008

To sign up for this course contact Mike Mangold by email (Mike_Mangold@fws.gov) or telephone number 410-573-4509, before May 9, 2008.

The per diem rate for Annapolis is \$123/\$64. There are many hotels in the area. Several nearby hotels are listed below.

Extended Stay America:	410-571-9988
Hampton Inn & Suites:	410-571-0200
Homestead Studio Suites hotel:	410-571-6600
Springhill Suites (Marriott):	443-321-2500

You will be responsible for your travel arrangements and costs.

FIRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE, Patchogue, New York
June 2 – 6, 2008

This course is being offered by the National Park Service. Fish and Wildlife Service employees wishing to attend this course should contact Tom Loring by email (Thomas_Loring@fws.gov) or telephone number 631-286-0485, extension 155, before May 9, 2008.

The per diem rate for Suffolk County, New York is \$128/\$64. There are several hotels in the area. Several nearby hotels are listed below.

Hampton Inn, Medford, NY:	631-732-7300
Comfort Inn, Medford, NY:	631-654-3000
Radisson Hotel, Holtsville, NY:	631-758-2900

You will be responsible for your travel arrangements and costs.